

June 8, 2000

Janet Henney, M.D.
Commissioner
FDA
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

3 3 2 0 '00 JUN 14 A10 :30

Re: Olean (olestra)

Dear Dr. Henney:

I have written a couple of letters on this subject; but have just recently been informed that I need to write another one to the FDA in order to protect myself and thousands others from the unsuspecting havoc that is wreaked by the food additive, Olean.

I bought a bag of potato chips that had Olean in them. The name was "Oh Wow". I had bought a small bag and not the family size (luckily). That night, almost as soon as I had started eating them, I started cramping and doubling over from the pain. I immediately thought I was getting a virus; but the pain lasted all night long. After I used the bathroom a couple of times, relief started to finally come. I still wasn't quite sure what had caused this horrible pain; because even though I was a bit nauseated, the nausea was more from the pain than gastric problems or something I had eaten. A couple of weeks later, I decided I would try an experiment to see if the Olean was the problem. I bought a tiny bag of "Oh Wow" and ate just about three chips when my abdominal cramping started up again and doubling-over type pain. I was sure then that this was the culprit. I have not, nor could you get me to, eat any more of those things. I was sick again all night, just from three chips!!!!

It is necessary that all consumers be notified that this is a possible problem and the packages need to have the warning labels larger and in more clearly defined terminology. I urge you not to let big business pressure you into removing labels or weakening the warnings. I have heard of other folks that had to go to the emergency rooms. Thank the Good Lord I didn't have to go to the emergency room. I am a legal secretary and I have seen the horrors that can be caused by such products. However, upon hindsight reflection, I am wondering if I could have gotten relief quicker had I gone to the emergency room.

I am really concerned about the medical problems this product is causing. Please take all this into consideration. Thank you in advance for your time in reading my letter.

May God bless you,

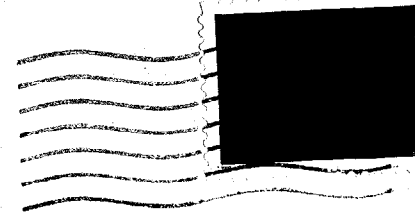
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